

just accidental, only further observations will show. Perhaps some of the readers of your esteemed *Journal* may have had a similar experience? The algal slime found in the depressions was identified as *Spirogyra* sp. with an admixture of diatoms by Prof. S. Iyer, Head of the Department of Botany, The Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, to whom my grateful thanks are due.

' BELLE-VUE '

DEWAN'S ROAD,
ERNAKULAM.

N. G. PILLAI

November 13, 1967.

15. OCCURRENCE OF THE SNAKE *TYPHLOPS DIARDI* SCHLEGEL IN THE DUN VALLEY

I collected two specimens of *Typhlops diardi* Schlegel from (Reg. No. V229) Dharmawala Forest Block, Timli Forest Range, Dehra Dun Forest Division, Dehra Dun District. on 9 March, 1963, and a female (Reg. No. V 230) from a drain near Garhi Cantonment, Dehra Dun, on 10 June, 1964. The species has not been recorded earlier from the Western Himalayas.

The specimens show some variation in the lepidosis from that given by Smith (1935) FAUNA OF BRITISH INDIA, Reptilia and Amphibia, 3 : 52 ' eye distinct, usually in the ocular shield, the lower edge of which is wedged in between 3rd and 4th labial '. The eyes are distinct in the ocular shield and the lower edge of the ocular is not wedged in between 3 and 4 supralabials, but the ocular touches the 4th supralabial.

The female specimen contained 9 fully developed eggs of 4-7 mm. size. It appears that the egg laying season commences in June in the Dun Valley.

Smith (op. cit.) gives the range of *T. d. diardi* as ' Bengal, Assam, Burma and French Indo-China north of lat. 16° '. The present record of the species from Dun Valley considerably extends the western range of the species.

NORTHERN REGIONAL STATION,
ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,
DEHRA DUN.

R. K. BHATNAGAR

May 26, 1966.